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TREATMENT OR PROPHYLAXIS  
OF ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a pharmaceutical  
5 composition and a method for reducing an infarct region  
resulting from the ischemic necrosis of cells, especially,  
a pharmaceutical composition and a method for suppressing  
ischemia-reperfusion injury in the treatment of ischemic  
heart disease. The pharmaceutical composition and the  
10 method utilize a substance, as an active ingredient, which  
can increase intracellular cGMP production by acting on a  
natriuretic peptide receptor, and which has the effect of  
reducing an infarct region. The substance is preferably a  
natriuretic peptide. The present invention is particularly  
15 useful for the treatment or prophylaxis of ischemic disease.